From: Alpert, Neal
To: Peter Goodman
Cc: Denise Simmons
Subject: RE: BDS vote
Date: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 11:00:00 AM

Hello Mr. Goodman,

Thank you for reaching out to Councilor Simmons, and my apologies for missing your call yesterday. Due to the extraordinarily high volume of people reaching out to Councilor Simmons about this matter, I am afraid that we are not able to accommodate meetings with everyone wishing to speak to her in person about this matter. However, Councilor Simmons is personally reading and reviewing all incoming emails about this, and she has prepared a statement in response to all who are reaching out to her:

> So far, I have not yet seen an actual draft of the proposed resolution asking the City to cease purchasing HP equipment and supplies. I understand there's been a great deal of concern in the community about this matter – yet I must underscore that **this will only appear on the City Council's April 23 agenda if one or more City Councilors sponsor it**. We will not know if it is on the agenda until either a City Councilor publicly declares that they'll be sponsoring this (to my knowledge, this has not happened), or until the agenda is finalized by the Clerk's Office and posted online this Thursday evening around 5:30 pm. I can, at the very least, confirm that *I* am not a sponsor of such a resolution.
>
> There have been numerous passionate op-eds, emails, and social media posts condemning the City Council for rushing this to a vote without adequate opportunities for the public to weigh in, or even giving people a chance to read the resolution. Some people have condemned the City Council for seemingly being on the brink of passing this resolution, or for seemingly being on the brink of rejecting it. Neither of these scenarios is accurate. I must clarify that we do not yet actually have a resolution or policy order in front of us, there has been absolutely no debate about this amongst the City Councilors, and the City Council will not have an opportunity to take this matter up for consideration unless and until a resolution is sponsored by at least one of us and introduced at a public meeting. At this point, I am not yet certain if such a resolution will be introduced or not.
>
> I am currently reading up on this issue to be better informed, I am reviewing all the emails and letters coming in about this issue, and I am reaching out to our representatives in Congress to seek their input on an issue that is more international than municipal in scope. Should this matter end up on before the City Council – either on April 23 or at a later date – I will look forward to engaging in a thoughtful discussion and debate with my colleagues on the Council and then seeing how to best resolve this matter in a way that allows everyone to feel they have had a fair chance to be heard. Thank you.
>
> E. Denise Simmons

As Councilor Simmons says in her statement, there is not yet a specific proposal in front of her or the rest of the City Council on which to ruminate, and as with any piece of business before the Council, she is committed to educating herself on the matter as much as possible and only then will she make a determination of how to vote. It is not clear whether or not this will be on Monday night's agenda, but

nevertheless, Councilor Simmons appreciates your thoughtful email to her and will take that under consideration. Thank you.

Best,

Neal

Neal Alpert, *Council Aide*
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Follow Councilor Simmons on Twitter:
http://www.twitter.com/E_DeniseSimmons

From: Denise Simmons [mailto:councilorsimmons1@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 15, 2018 5:26 PM
To: Peter Goodman <peter@goodmanonline.com>
Cc: Alpert, Neal <nalpert@cambridgema.gov>
Subject: Re: BDS vote

To make an appointment please call Mr. Neal Alpert at 617-349-4205.

On Sun, Apr 15, 2018 at 5:24 PM, Denise Simmons <councilorsimmons1@gmail.com> wrote:

> No problem . Thank you for your email and sharing with me your concerns.l
>
> Denise Simmons
>
> On Sat, Apr 14, 2018 at 2:12 PM, Peter Goodman <peter@goodmanonline.com> wrote:
>
> > Hi CW Simmons.
> >
> > Sorry I'm sending this to both your emails. I couldn't figure out which was the right one to use.
> >
> > Please don't vote for BDS. This is a hateful campaign against the Jewish people under the guise of anti-Zionism. If you have the time please read through this scholarly article that explains the

> history of Jewish/Israeli boycotts going back to the 1920's. Most Palestinian supporters are very moral people but they are being misled and lied to by those that are trying to rid Israel of the Jewish people. Meaning well is not cool if it causes more harm than good. https://legalinsurrection.com/2016/12/the-real-history-of-the-bds-movement/
>
> Thanks for listening. I am very well versed on this subject and I would like to meet with you at your office for a thoughtful discussion if you would allow me.
>
> Peter Goodman
> Goodman and Company Business Brokers

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E. Denise Simmons

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E. Denise Simmons